



## **MIRACLE GROW - Week 8 GENTLENESS: Discussion Guide**

### **TOUCH BASE - 10 Minutes**

- 1) Do you consider gentleness a strength or a weakness? Why?
- 2) What insights did you gain from this week's chapter or sermon?

### **TAKE IT IN - 10 Minutes**

Watch the video for week 8 entitled "Gentleness" on the DVD or at [tlc.org/miraclegrow](http://tlc.org/miraclegrow).

#### **Video Notes**

Gentleness is the ability to endure without \_\_\_\_\_.

### **TALK IT OUT - 25 to 35 Minutes**

- 1) Read Deuteronomy 1:31, Psalm 23:2-3:10, Psalm 103:13-14, Isaiah 40:11
  - a) List the character qualities revealed about God from these verses.
  - b) What does it mean to you that God is gentle? Share a time when you experienced God's gentleness?
- 2) Read 1 Kings 19:9-13. In this passage, God reveals himself to Elijah in a surprising way.
  - a) What preceded the Lord?
  - b) How did God choose to reveal himself?
  - c) What does this interaction reveal about God's power and his gentleness?
  - d) Gentleness is a core attribute of God. His character is most fully revealed not in his immense power, but in a gentle whisper. You lean into a whisper; how does the gentle whisper of God invite you to lean into a relationship with Him?
- 3) Read Matthew 11:28-30 twice, once out loud as a group and once silently, circling any words that stand out to you.

“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.”(NIV)

a) What words did you circle and why?

b) How did Jesus describe himself and his yoke?

c) According to this verse, what is the result of being under Jesus yoke?

d) What do you think the verse means when it says “take my yoke upon you and LEARN from me? If you were under his yoke how would your attitudes and actions be different this week?

e) List some other yokes that people are under in our society?

4) A gentle answer turns away wrath (Prov 15:1). How have you seen this in your experience?

5) What are some reasons why people are so often harsh toward others? When do you personally find it most difficult to exercise gentleness to others and why?

6) The gentleness of God is described by using the metaphors of a shepherd and a loving parent. How can these pictures help in working out what it means to exercise gentleness in our own lives to reflect the gentleness of God?

### **TAKE IT WITH YOU - 10 Minutes**

Gentleness is a vital necessity in all of our relationships in life - relationships with people in whom change comes very slowly, if at all. Often, instead of being gentle with them we are harsh, abrupt, or defensive. Think over your interactions this past week with your: co-workers, spouse/significant other, fellow students, or your kids. Is there someone in your life with who needs to see the fruit of gentleness? What steps can you take to demonstrate it?

### **CLOSE IN PRAYER**

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### **We only have one week left! You might be asking what's next?**

During this study, we hope that friendships have been developed and a deep sense of belonging not only to TLC but also one another. We believe that this is what it means to be part of the body of Christ. If your group was formed only for this study we are so glad you participated and trust that you have enjoyed it and developed some good friends along the way. If you or your group would like to continue to meet please contact Pastor Jim at [jim@tlc.org](mailto:jim@tlc.org) or 831-465-3331 and he would be happy to help you find great small group material. God Bless and thank you!